

EDITORIAL NOTE

Dear reader of the Tanaffos Journal,

Lung diseases like asthma and COPD affect the lives of ~300 and 200 million people respectively worldwide (WHO 2007). The severity and incidence of both these diseases are increasing globally. COPD is a chronic inflammatory disease for which smoking is the major risk factor in both developed and developing countries and is currently the fourth leading cause of death worldwide and is predicted to be the third ranked disease by the year 2030. Asthma is one of the commonest chronic diseases in the world and its prevalence is rising, particularly in developing countries. In 2005, COPD alone was responsible for 3 million deaths, and asthma claimed a further 250,000 lives (WHO 2007). Despite the ever increasing number of patients suffering from COPD, there are currently no treatments that can slow or prevent the progression of the disease or provide patients with adequate relief from their symptoms. We need tools to better understand and update our respiratory knowledge worldwide. In this regard, we would like to inform you about some future changes in the publication policy of the Tanaffos Journal.

We have planned to categorize the content of the journal into the new sections: Editorial, Original articles in: COPD, Asthma, Thoracic Oncology, Cystic Fibrosis, Tuberculosis, and Lung cell biology, Immunology and Review papers.

Moreover, we would like to start this important challenge by inviting well-known authors in respiratory fields to submit their review and original papers. With this new policy, we are aiming to improve the quality of our journal with higher citation rates of the manuscripts in order to receive an impact factor as a journal in pulmonary field.

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